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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 20

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Raymond **Landveld** (Suriname)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 31st, 34th and 39th meetings, on 1 and 10 November and 6 December 2011. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/66/SR.31, 34 and 39). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 3 to 5 October (see A/C.2/66/SR.2-6).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme on its twenty-third session (11-15 April 2011) (A/66/8);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (A/66/281);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III) (A/66/282);

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(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting his report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (A/66/326);

(e) Letter dated 27 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the thirty-fifth annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held at United Nations Headquarters on 23 September 2011 (A/66/388).

4. At the 31st meeting, on 1 November, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat made an introductory statement and responded to a question posed by the representative of Mexico (see A/C.2/66/SR.31).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.36 and A/C.2/66/L.75

5. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" (A/C.2/66/L.36), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 65/165 of 20 December 2010 and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),

"*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/21 of 27 July 2011, and all other previous resolutions of the Council on human settlements,

"*Recalling further* the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation') to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

"*Recalling* the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"*Expressing its concern* about the continuing increase in the number of slum-dwellers in the world, despite the attainment of the Millennium Development Goal target of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020,

"*Taking note* of the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, in particular

paragraph 77 (k), by which Heads of State and Government committed themselves to working towards cities without slums, beyond current targets, by reducing slum populations and improving the lives of slum-dwellers, with adequate support of the international community, by prioritizing national urban planning strategies with the participation of all stakeholders, by promoting equal access for people living in slums to public services, including health, education, energy, water and sanitation and adequate shelter, and by promoting sustainable urban and rural development, and encouraging UN-Habitat to continue providing the necessary technical assistance,

"*Also taking note* of resolution 23/9 of 15 April 2011 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, by which the Council invited Governments and regional and local authorities to enumerate the slum populations in their countries, regions and urban areas and, on that basis, to set voluntary and realistic national, regional and local targets, to be attained by 2020, with regard to improving significantly the lives of slum-dwellers,

"*Recognizing* the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements,

"*Welcoming with appreciation* the important contribution of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to more cost-effective transitions between emergency relief, recovery and reconstruction, and also its participation in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

"*Welcoming* the progress being made by UN-Habitat in the implementation of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013 and its efforts, as a non-resident agency, in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda into their respective development frameworks,

"*Also welcoming* the offer of the Government of Italy and the city of Naples to host the sixth session of the World Urban Forum from 1 to 7 September 2012,

"*Recognizing* the continuing need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals,

"*Taking note* of resolution 23/10 of 15 April 2011 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, by which the Council requested the Executive Director to explore as expeditiously as possible and to select, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN-Habitat, a partnership model with development finance institutions for future lending, guarantee and financial advisory services in the urban upgrading and housing finance sectors, while UN-Habitat would focus on normative and global advocacy work in those areas,

"*Recalling* its resolution 64/207 of 21 December 2009, by which it took note of the recommendation made by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in

its resolution 22/1 of 3 April 2009 and, having considered the question of convening, in 2016, a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on that question, in collaboration with the Governing Council, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session,

"*Recalling also* that, in its resolution 65/165, it requested the Governing Council of UN-Habitat to consider the possibility of integrating into the preparatory process for Habitat III the two themes of 'housing finance systems' and 'sustainable urbanization', previously suggested as topics for high-level events of the General Assembly,

"1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda, on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III);

"2. *Decides* to convene in 2016, in line with the bi-decennial cycle (1976, 1996 and 2016), a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III) to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable urbanization that should focus on the implementation of a 'New Urban Agenda', which should build on the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and other relevant international United Nations conferences, and requests a modalities resolution to be adopted before the end of 2012;

"3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), who will serve as the Secretary-General of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development and Head of its secretariat, and to prepare a report on the modalities of the conference for submission and consideration by the General Assembly before the end of 2012;

"4. *Invites* Governments and regional and local authorities, in accordance with national legislation, to enumerate the population living in slums in their countries, regions and urban areas and, on that basis, to set, with the support of the international community, voluntary and realistic national, regional and local targets, to be attained by 2020, with regard to improving significantly the lives of slum-dwellers, in line with resolution 23/9 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, entitled 'Global and national strategies and frameworks for improving the lives of slum-dwellers beyond the Millennium Development Goals target';

"5. *Invites* the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to provide, in line with its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013, or its subsequent strategic plan,

technical and advisory assistance to Governments and regional and local authorities wishing to assess their slum population levels and trends, set voluntary national, regional and local 2020 targets, prepare national, regional and local slum prevention and upgrading strategies and plans, formulate and implement slum upgrading and housing programmes and monitor implementation progress, and to report periodically to the Governing Council and the General Assembly;

"6. *Welcomes* the progress made by UN-Habitat in the implementation of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013, and takes note of the conclusions of the midterm review of the plan submitted to the Governing Council of UN-Habitat at its twenty-third session;

"7. *Urges* UN-Habitat to explore a partnership model with development finance institutions for future lending, guarantee and financial advisory services in line with Governing Council resolution 23/10 and to continue to maximize UN-Habitat's comparative advantage around its normative work on urban upgrading, housing and basic services for the poor;

"8. *Reiterates* its encouragement to UN-Habitat to continue, within its mandate and in line with the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013, its existing cooperation on issues related to cities and climate change and to continue to play a complementary role in matters related to climate change within the United Nations system, in particular in addressing the vulnerability of cities to climate change, including through further normative work and expansion of its technical assistance to towns and cities on local action for the mitigation of urban-based greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change, with a focus on vulnerable urban populations, slum-dwellers, the urban poor and at-risk populations;

"9. *Stresses* the importance of timely action by UN-Habitat in response to natural and human-made disasters, in particular through its work in addressing post-disaster and post-conflict housing and infrastructure needs through its normative and operational work as part of the continuum from emergency relief to recovery and to urban development through effective urban planning;

"10. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to UN-Habitat through increased financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund and the technical cooperation trust funds, and invites Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

"12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session an item entitled 'Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)', and a sub-item entitled

'Progress report on the state of preparations for the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III)'."

6. At its 39th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" (A/C.2/66/L.75), submitted by the Rapporteur on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.36.

7. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

8. Also at its 39th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.75 (see para. 11).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.75, draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.36 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Turkey (see A/C.2/66/SR.39).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 65/165 of 20 December 2010 and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/21 of 27 July 2011 and all other previous resolutions of the Council on human settlements,

Recalling further the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome[2] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[3] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda,[4] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[5] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Expressing its concern about the continuing increase in the number of slum-dwellers in the world, despite the attainment of the Millennium Development Goal target of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020,

Taking note of the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[7] in particular paragraph 77 (k), in which Heads of State and Government committed themselves to working towards cities without slums, beyond current targets, by reducing slum populations and improving the lives of slum-dwellers, with adequate support of the international

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[5] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 65/1.

community, by prioritizing national urban planning strategies with the participation of all stakeholders, by promoting equal access for people living in slums to public services, including health, education, energy, water and sanitation and adequate shelter, and by promoting sustainable urban and rural development, and encouraging UN-Habitat to continue providing the necessary technical assistance,

Taking note also of resolution 23/9 of 15 April 2011 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, entitled "Global and national strategies and frameworks for improving the lives of slum-dwellers beyond the Millennium Development Goals target",[8]

Recognizing the negative impacts of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements,

Welcoming with appreciation the important contribution of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to more cost-effective transitions between emergency relief, recovery and reconstruction, and also its participation in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

Welcoming the progress being made by UN-Habitat in the implementation of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013 and its efforts, as a non-resident agency, in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda into their respective development frameworks,

Welcoming also the offer of the Government of Italy and the city of Naples to host the sixth session of the World Urban Forum from 1 to 7 September 2012,

Recognizing the continuing need for adequate and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation so as to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals,

Taking note of resolution 23/10 of 15 April 2011 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, entitled "Future activities by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in urban economy and financial mechanisms for urban upgrading, housing and basic services for the urban poor",[8]

Recalling its resolution 64/207 of 21 December 2009, in which it took note of the recommendation made by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 22/1 of 3 April 2009 and, having considered the question of convening, in 2016, a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on that question, in collaboration with the Governing Council, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session,

Recalling also its resolution 65/165, in which it encouraged the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and in discussion with all the partners of the Habitat Agenda, to consider the possibility of integrating the two themes of "housing finance systems" and "sustainable urbanization" into the preparatory process of Habitat III,

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[8] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/66/8), annex, sect. B.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[9] on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)[10] and on the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III);[11]

2. *Decides* to convene in 2016, in line with the bi-decennial cycle (1976, 1996 and 2016), a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III) to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable urbanization that should focus on the implementation of a "New Urban Agenda", which should build on the Habitat Agenda,[4] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium[5] and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[12] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[3] and the outcomes of other major United Nations conferences and summits;

3. *Acknowledges* in this regard the importance of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;

4. *Emphasizes* that the Conference and its preparatory process should take full advantage of planned meetings by aligning with the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and with the sixth and seventh sessions of the World Urban Forum, and encourages the regular regional ministerial conferences on housing and urban development and other relevant expert group meetings to support the activities of the preparatory process, taking into account that the Conference and its preparatory process should be carried out in the most inclusive, efficient, effective and improved manner;

5. *Decides* to consider before the end of 2012 the scope, modalities, format and organization of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), in a most efficient and effective manner;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to appoint the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to serve as Secretary-General of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development and to act as focal point on behalf of the United Nations system;

7. *Invites* Governments and regional and local authorities, in accordance with national legislation, to enumerate the populations living in slums in their countries, regions and urban areas and, on that basis, to set, with the support of the international community, voluntary and realistic national, regional and local targets, to be attained by 2020, with regard to improving significantly the lives of slum-dwellers, in line with resolution 23/9 of 15 April 2011 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, entitled "Global and national strategies and frameworks for

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[9] See A/66/326.

[10] A/66/281.

[11] A/66/282.

[12] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

improving the lives of slum-dwellers beyond the Millennium Development Goals target";[8]

8. *Invites* UN-Habitat to provide, within its current budget and in line with its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013, or its subsequent strategic plan, technical and advisory assistance to Governments and regional and local authorities wishing to assess their slum population levels and trends, set voluntary national, regional and local 2020 targets, prepare national, regional and local slum prevention and upgrading strategies and plans, formulate and implement slum upgrading and housing programmes and monitor the progress of implementation, and to report periodically to the Governing Council and the General Assembly;

9. *Welcomes* the progress made by UN-Habitat in the implementation of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013, and takes note of the conclusions of the midterm review of the plan submitted to the Governing Council of UN-Habitat at its twenty-third session;[13]

10. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue to work on the strategic plan for 2014-2019 in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in an open and transparent manner, setting realistic and achievable goals for the period it covers;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,[14] and encourages UN-Habitat to move this process forward, in cooperation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in order to continue on its path towards the improvement of its transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness;

12. *Notes* the request made by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 23/10[8] that the Executive Director, in building on the lessons learned from the experimental reimbursable seeding operations and slum upgrading facility programmes, shift the focus of the work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in the area of human settlements financing towards strengthening its normative approaches to urban economy and the promotion of finance for urban upgrading, housing and basic services for the urban poor, while taking into account geographical and regional balance, as well as the request to explore as expeditiously as possible and to select, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a partnership model with development finance institutions for future lending, guarantee and financial advisory services in the urban upgrading and housing finance sectors;

13. *Reiterates its encouragement* to UN-Habitat to continue, within its mandate and in line with the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008-2013, its existing cooperation on issues related to cities and climate change and to continue to play a complementary role in matters related to climate change within the United Nations system, in particular in addressing the vulnerability of cities to climate change, including through further normative work and expansion of its technical assistance to towns and cities on local action for the mitigation of urban-based greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate

[13] HSP/GC/23/5/Add.3.

[14] HSP/GC/23/2/Add.1.

change, with a focus on vulnerable urban populations, slum-dwellers, the urban poor and at-risk populations;

14. *Stresses* the importance of timely action by UN-Habitat in response to natural and human-made disasters, in particular through its work in addressing post-disaster and post-conflict housing and infrastructure needs through its normative and operational work as part of the continuum from emergency relief to recovery and to urban development through effective urban planning;

15. *Reiterates its support* for the dissemination and implementation of the guidelines on decentralization and strengthening of local authorities and the guidelines on access to basic services for all, approved by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolutions 21/3 of 20 April 2007[15] and 22/8 of 3 April 2009,[16] respectively, and reaffirmed by the Governing Council in its resolution 23/12 of 15 April 2011;[8]

16. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund and the technical cooperation trust funds, and invites Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

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[15] *See Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/62/8), annex I, sect. B.

[16] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/64/8), annex I, sect. B.

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 21

Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Raymond **Landveld** (Suriname)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled:

"Globalization and interdependence:

"(a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence;

"(b) Science and technology for development;

"(c) Development cooperation with middle-income countries"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate jointly on sub-items (a), (b) and (c) at its 15th and 16th meetings, on 19 October 2011. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/66/SR.15 and 16). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 3 to 5 October (see A/C.2/66/SR.2-6). Action was taken on the item at the 21st, 34th, 36th and 39th meetings, on 24 October, 10 and 22 November and 6 December 2011 (see A/C.2/66/SR.21, 34, 36 and 39). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbol A/66/442 and Add.1-3.

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Item 21
Globalization and interdependence

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on culture and development (A/66/187)

Letter dated 27 September 2011 from the representative of Argentina to the Secretary-General (A/66/388)

Item 21 (a)
Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and interdependence: sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for a fair and more equitable globalization for all, including job creation (A/66/223)

Item 21 (b)
Science and technology for development

Report of the Secretary-General on science and technology for development (A/66/208)

Item 21 (c)
Development cooperation with middle-income countries

Report of the Secretary-General on development cooperation with middle-income countries (A/66/220)

4. At the 15th meeting, on 19 October, introductory statements were made by the Assistant Director-General for Culture of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (under item 21); the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under sub-item (b)); the Director of the Development Policy and Analysis Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (c)); and the Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch of the Office for Economic and Social Council Support of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (a)) (see A/C.2/66/SR.15).

5. At the 16th meeting, on 19 October, the Assistant Director-General for Culture of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization responded to a question posed by the representative of the Russian Federation (see A/C.2/66/SR.16).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.13 and A/C.2/66/L.77

6. At the 21st meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Culture and development" (A/C.2/66/L.13), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Guided by* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997, 53/184 of 15 December 1998, 55/192 of 20 December 2000, 57/249 of 20 December 2002, and 65/166 of 20 December 2010, concerning culture and development,

"*Recalling also* the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and the Action Plan for its implementation, on 2 November 2001, and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, as well as other international conventions of that Organization that acknowledge the important role of cultural diversity for social and economic development,

"*Recognizing* that culture is an essential component of human development, represents a source of identity, innovation and creativity for the individual and the community and is an important factor in social inclusion and poverty eradication, providing for economic growth and ownership of development processes,

"*Acknowledging* that cultural diversity is a source of enrichment for humankind and an important contributor to the sustainable development of local communities, peoples and nations, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives,

"*Recalling* the importance of the promotion of national cultures, artistic creation in all its forms and international and regional cultural cooperation, and reaffirming in this regard the relevance of strengthening national, regional and international aid mechanisms for cultural action and artistic creation,

"*Recognizing* the linkages between cultural and biological diversity and the positive contribution of local and indigenous traditional knowledge in addressing environmental challenges in a sustainable manner,

"*Noting with satisfaction* that, in its resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled 'Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals', the General Assembly emphasized the importance of culture for development and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and, in that respect, encouraged international cooperation in the cultural field, aimed at achieving development objectives,

"*Taking note with satisfaction* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and in this regard acknowledging with appreciation the work undertaken by United Nations agencies to optimize the contributions of culture to sustainable development, and also taking note with satisfaction of the positive assessment regarding the convening of a United Nations conference on culture and development,

"1. *Emphasizes* the important contribution of culture for the achievement of sustainable development and of national development objectives and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"2. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and relevant non-governmental organizations:

"(a) To raise public awareness of the importance of cultural diversity for sustainable development, promoting its positive value through education and media tools;

"(b) To ensure a more visible and effective integration and mainstreaming of culture into social and economic development policies and strategies at all levels;

"(c) To promote capacity-building, where appropriate, at all levels for the development of a dynamic cultural and creative sector, in particular by encouraging creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, supporting the development of cultural institutions and cultural industries, providing technical and vocational training for culture professionals and increasing employment opportunities in the cultural and creative sector for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development, while noting the role of traditional financing and innovative financing mechanisms, and recognizing that such mechanisms should be voluntary and should supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of finance, public-private partnerships or any other collaborative arrangements in furthering these objectives;

"(d) To actively support the emergence of local markets for cultural goods and services and to facilitate the effective and licit access of such goods and services to international markets, taking into account the expanding range of cultural production and consumption and, for States parties to it, the provisions of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;

"(e) To preserve and maintain local and indigenous traditional knowledge and community practices of environmental management, which are valuable examples of culture as a vehicle for environmental sustainability and sustainable development, and to foster synergies between modern science and technology and local and indigenous knowledge, practices and innovation;

"(f) To promote global awareness of the linkages between cultural and biological diversity, including through the protection and encouragement of the customary use of biological resources, in accordance with traditional cultural practices, as a key element of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

"(g) To support national legal frameworks and policies for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage and cultural property, the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property and the return of cultural property, in accordance with national legislation and applicable international legal frameworks, including by promoting international cooperation to prevent the misappropriation of cultural heritage and products, recognizing the importance

of intellectual property rights in sustaining those involved in cultural creativity;

"3. *Encourages* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all relevant stakeholders to enhance international cooperation in supporting the efforts of developing countries for the development and consolidation of cultural industries, cultural tourism and culture-related microenterprises and to assist those countries in developing the necessary infrastructure and skills, as well as in mastering information and communications technologies and gaining access to new technologies on mutually agreed terms;

"4. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to assist Member States, upon their request, in developing their national capacities to assess how best to optimize the contribution of culture to development, including through information-sharing, exchange of best practices, data collection, research and study, and the use of appropriate evaluation indicators, in accordance with their national priorities and taking into account relevant General Assembly resolutions;

"5. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to assess the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development through the compilation of quantitative data, including indicators and statistics, with a view to informing development policies and such relevant reports as the *Human Development Report*;

"6. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in conjunction, as appropriate, with other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to continue to provide support and to facilitate financing, as appropriate, upon request, to developing countries, in particular with regard to national capacity-building for the implementation of applicable international cultural conventions, taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the Millennium Development Goals;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations country teams continue to further integrate and mainstream culture into their programming exercises, in particular United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in consultation with relevant national authorities, when assisting countries in the pursuit of their development objectives;

"8. *Encourages* Member States, organizations of the United Nations, intergovernmental bodies, relevant non-governmental organizations, major groups and all relevant stakeholders to take into consideration the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development in the context of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in May 2012;

"9. *Decides* to convene, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, a United Nations conference at the highest possible level, before the review in 2015 of the Millennium

Development Goals with the aim of taking stock of the contribution of culture to the achievement of development and formulating a consolidated approach to culture and development;

"10. *Encourages* Member States to adequately reflect the contribution of culture to the achievement of development in the results of the review in 2015 of the Millennium Development Goals, and in global development policies after 2015;

"11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence', a sub-item entitled 'Culture and development'."

7. At its 39th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Culture and development" (A/C.2/66/L.77), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Bitrus Vandy Yohanna (Nigeria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.13.

8. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair, the Committee agreed to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and proceed to act on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.77.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.77 had no programme budget implications.

10. Also at the 39th meeting, the representative of Senegal, in his capacity as facilitator of the draft resolution, orally corrected the text by replacing the words "achievement of sustainable development" by the words "achievement of development" in operative paragraph 8.

11. At its 39th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.77, as orally corrected (see para. 17, draft resolution I).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.77, draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.13 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.16 and Rev.1

13. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Austria, on behalf of Argentina, Austria, the Bahamas, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, subsequently joined by Honduras and Ukraine, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Promoting the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions" (A/C.2/66/L.16), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/2 of 26 April 2011,

"*Recalling also* its resolutions 59/55 of 2 December 2004 and 60/34 of 30 November 2005 and its previous resolutions on public administration and development,

"*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

"*Emphasizing* the need to improve the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration,

"*Emphasizing also* that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Stressing* the need for capacity-building as a tool to promote development and welcoming the cooperation of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions with the United Nations in this regard,

"1. *Recognizes* that supreme audit institutions can accomplish their tasks objectively and effectively only if they are independent of the audited entity and are protected against outside influence;

"2. *Also recognizes* the important role of supreme audit institutions in promoting the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration, which is conducive to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in promoting greater transparency, accountability and efficient and effective receipt and use of public resources for the benefit of citizens and of the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts of 1977 and the Mexico Declaration of Supreme Audit Institutions Independence of 2007;

"4. *Calls upon* Member States to apply the principles set out in the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts of 1977 and the Mexico Declaration of Supreme Audit Institutions Independence of 2007;

"5. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations institutions to continue and intensify their cooperation, including in capacity-building, with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in order to promote good governance by ensuring efficiency, transparency and accountability through strengthened supreme audit institutions."

14. At its 36th meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Promoting the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions" (A/C.2/66/L.16/Rev.1), submitted by Argentina, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia,

South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam. Subsequently, Cambodia, Eritrea, Guinea, Haiti, Liberia and Sierra Leone joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

15. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

16. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.16/Rev.1 (see para. 17, draft resolution II).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

17. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Culture and development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997, 53/184 of 15 December 1998, 55/192 of 20 December 2000, 57/249 of 20 December 2002, and 65/166 of 20 December 2010, concerning culture and development,

Recalling also the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity[1] and the Action Plan for its implementation,[2] on 2 November 2001, and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[3] as well as other international conventions of that organization that acknowledge the important role of cultural diversity for social and economic development, and welcoming the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity at the thirty-sixth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recognizing that culture is an essential component of human development, represents a source of identity, innovation and creativity for the individual and the community and is an important factor in social inclusion and poverty eradication, providing for economic growth and ownership of development processes,

Acknowledging that cultural diversity is a source of enrichment for humankind and an important contributor to the sustainable development of local communities, peoples and nations, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives,

Recalling the concerns expressed in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[4] on the underrepresentation of women in decision-making positions in the area of culture, which has prevented women from having a significant impact in the area of culture and development,

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[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid., *Thirty-third Session, Paris, 3-21 October 2005*, vol. 1 and corrigenda, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 41.

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Recalling the importance of the promotion of national cultures, artistic creation in all its forms and international and regional cultural cooperation, and reaffirming in this regard the relevance of strengthening national efforts and regional and international cooperation mechanisms for cultural action and artistic creation,

Recognizing the linkages between cultural and biological diversity and the positive contribution of local and indigenous traditional knowledge in addressing environmental challenges in a sustainable manner,

Noting with satisfaction that, in its resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals", the General Assembly emphasized the importance of culture for development and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and, in that respect, encouraged international cooperation in the cultural field, aimed at achieving development objectives,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[5] and, in this regard, acknowledging the work undertaken by United Nations agencies to optimize the contributions of culture to sustainable development,

Acknowledging the importance of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

1. *Emphasizes* the important contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development and of national development objectives and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

2. *Recognizes* that culture contributes to the development of innovative creative capacities in people and is an important component of modernization and innovations in economic and social life;

3. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders:

(a) To raise public awareness of the importance of cultural diversity for sustainable development, promoting its positive value through education and media tools;

(b) To ensure a more visible and effective integration and mainstreaming of culture into social, environmental and economic development policies and strategies at all levels;

(c) To promote capacity-building, where appropriate, at all levels for the development of a dynamic cultural and creative sector, in particular by encouraging creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, supporting the development of cultural institutions and cultural industries, providing technical and vocational training for culture professionals and increasing employment opportunities in the cultural and creative sector for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development;

[5] A/66/187.

(d) To actively support the emergence of local markets for cultural goods and services and to facilitate the effective and licit access of such goods and services to international markets, taking into account the expanding range of cultural production and consumption and, for States parties to it, the provisions of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;[5]

(e) To enhance women's active share in cultural decision-making with men and to undertake activities that promote women's empowerment and the perception of attitudes and a culture favourable to equality;

(f) To preserve and maintain local and indigenous traditional knowledge and community practices of environmental management, which are valuable examples of culture as a vehicle for sustainable development, and to foster synergies between modern science and technology and local and indigenous knowledge, practices and innovation;

(g) To promote global awareness of the linkages between cultural and biological diversity, including through the protection and encouragement of the customary use of biological resources, in accordance with traditional cultural practices, as a key element of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

(h) To support national legal frameworks and policies for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage and cultural property,[6] the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property and the return of cultural property,[7] in accordance with national legislation and applicable international legal frameworks, including by promoting international cooperation to prevent the misappropriation of cultural heritage and products, recognizing the importance of intellectual property rights in sustaining those involved in cultural creativity;

(i) To note that, in achieving these objectives, innovative mechanisms of financing can make a positive contribution in assisting developing countries in mobilizing additional resources for development on a stable, predictable and voluntary basis, and to reiterate that such voluntary mechanisms should be effective, should aim to mobilize resources that are stable and predictable, should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing, should be disbursed in accordance with the priorities of developing countries and should not unduly burden such countries;

4. *Encourages* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to enhance international cooperation in supporting the efforts of developing countries for the development and consolidation of cultural industries, cultural tourism and culture-related microenterprises and to assist those countries in developing the necessary infrastructure and skills, as well as in mastering information and communications technologies and gaining access to new technologies on mutually agreed terms;

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[6] As defined in article 1 of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806).

[7] In line with the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

5. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to provide support, to facilitate financing and to assist Member States, upon their request, in developing their national capacities to assess how best to optimize the contribution of culture to development, including through information-sharing, exchange of best practices, data collection, research and study, and the use of appropriate evaluation indicators, as well as to implement applicable international cultural conventions, taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to assess the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development through the compilation of quantitative data, including indicators and statistics, with a view to informing development policies and relevant reports, where appropriate;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations country teams continue to further integrate and mainstream culture into their programming exercises, in particular United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in consultation with relevant national authorities, when assisting countries in the pursuit of their development objectives;

8. *Encourages* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to take into consideration the contribution of culture to the achievement of development in the formulation of national, regional and international development policies and international cooperation instruments;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution and to assess, in consultation with relevant United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the feasibility of various measures, including a possible United Nations conference, to take stock of the contribution of culture to development and to formulate a consolidated approach to culture and development and, in this context, takes note of the annual ministerial review on the theme "Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals" to be held by the Economic and Social Council in 2013;

10. *Encourages* Member States to share with the Secretary-General information and lessons learned on the contribution of culture to the achievement of development as a contribution to the United Nations development agenda, including the Millennium Development Goals;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", a sub-item entitled "Culture and development".

Draft resolution II
Promoting the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/2 of 26 April 2011,

Recalling also its resolutions 59/55 of 2 December 2004 and 60/34 of 30 November 2005 and its previous resolutions on public administration and development,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Emphasizing the need to improve the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration,

Emphasizing also that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Stressing the need for capacity-building as a tool to promote development and welcoming the cooperation of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions with the United Nations in this regard,

1. *Recognizes* that supreme audit institutions can accomplish their tasks objectively and effectively only if they are independent of the audited entity and are protected against outside influence;

2. *Also recognizes* the important role of supreme audit institutions in promoting the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration, which is conducive to the achievement of national development objectives and priorities as well as the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in promoting greater efficiency, accountability, effectiveness, transparency and efficient and effective receipt and use of public resources for the benefit of citizens;

4. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts of 1977[2] and the Mexico Declaration on Supreme Audit Institutions Independence of 2007,[3] and encourages Member States to apply, in a manner consistent with their national institutional structures, the principles set out in those Declarations;

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts, adopted by the Ninth Congress of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions, Lima, 17-26 October 1977.

[3] Mexico Declaration on Supreme Audit Institutions Independence, adopted by the Nineteenth Congress of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions, Mexico City, 5-10 November 2007.

5. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations institutions to continue and to intensify their cooperation, including in capacity-building, with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in order to promote good governance by ensuring efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency through strengthened supreme audit institutions.

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Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Raymond **Landveld** (Suriname)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 21 (see A/66/442, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 34th and 39th meetings, on 10 November and 6 December 2011. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/66/SR.34 and 39).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.23 and A/C.2/66/L.74

2. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/66/L.23), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 62/199 of 19 December 2007, 63/222 of 19 December 2008, 64/210 of 21 December 2009 and 65/168 of 20 December 2010 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbol A/66/442 and Add.1-3.

Please recycle

"*Reaffirming* that the United Nations has the central and leading role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

"*Recognizing* that globalization and interdependence imply that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Reaffirming its strong support* for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into poverty reduction and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Expressing deep concern* over the adverse impacts of the ongoing financial and economic crisis on development,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General, entitled 'Globalization and interdependence: sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for a fair and more equitable globalization for all, including job creation',

"1. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and resolves to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

"2. *Also reaffirms* the need to strengthen the central role of the United Nations in enhancing the global partnership for development, with a view to creating a supportive global environment for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, including accelerating efforts to deliver and fully implement existing global partnership for development commitments;

"3. *Recognizes* that the scaling up of the successful policies and approaches in the implementation and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals needs to be complemented by a strengthened global partnership for development;

"4. *Reaffirms* the importance of policy space for developing countries, in the context of the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rules-based regimes for international economic relations;

"5. *Recognizes* that policies that link economic and social development can contribute to reducing inequalities within and among countries with a view to guaranteeing that the poor and those living in the most vulnerable situations maximize their benefits from economic growth and development;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the theme 'Globalization and interdependence';

"7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence', the sub-item entitled 'Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence'."

3. At its 39th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/66/L.74), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Bitrus Vandy Yohanna (Nigeria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.23.

4. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair, the Committee agreed to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and proceed to act on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.74.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.74 had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at its 39th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.74 (see para. 8).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.74, draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.23 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/199 of 19 December 2007, 63/222 of 19 December 2008, 64/210 of 21 December 2009 and 65/168 of 20 December 2010 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming the central role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development and policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence imply that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires responses to globalization to be developed through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into poverty reduction and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing deep concern about the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, cognizant that the global economy is entering a challenging new phase with significant downside risks, including turbulence in global financial and commodity markets and widespread fiscal strains, which threaten the global economic recovery, and stressing the need to continue to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and the need for continuing efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Globalization and interdependence: sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for a fair and more equitable globalization for all, including job creation",[1]

1. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and resolves to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial,

[1] A/66/223.

trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

2. *Also reaffirms* the need to strengthen the central role of the United Nations in enhancing the global partnership for development, with a view to creating a supportive global environment for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, including accelerating efforts to deliver and fully implement existing global partnership for development commitments;

3. *Recognizes* that the scaling-up of successful policies and approaches in the implementation and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals needs to be complemented by a strengthened global partnership for development;

4. *Also recognizes* that the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rules-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, that is, the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and international development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations and that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space;

5. *Further recognizes* that policies which link economic and social development can contribute to reducing inequalities within and among countries with a view to guaranteeing that the poor and those living in the most vulnerable situations maximize their benefits from economic growth and development;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly a report on the sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".